

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 10-13, 17, 18, 20,
and 21 as follows:

SUBBD

1. (Amended) An image recording apparatus for
recording images sensed by at least two image sensing means
attached to a vehicle, comprising:

first image sensing means which is arranged to have
an image sensing direction agreeing with a first direction of
the vehicle;

second image sensing means which is arranged at a
position separated a known distance from said first image
sensing means to have an image sensing direction agreeing
with a second direction [substantially 180°] different from
the first direction; and

recording means for, when the vehicle travels in
the first direction, associating first image data sensed by
said first image sensing means with second image data sensed
by said second image sensing means [a time duration later
corresponding to said known distance], and recording said
first and second image data,

wherein said first and second image data are sensed
at different times from each other, and the time difference
corresponds to said known distance.

2. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1,

A/ wherein said second direction is substantially 180° different from the first direction, and said first image sensing means comprises a plurality of cameras, image sensing directions of which are deployed symmetrically about the first direction.

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6. (Amended) An image recording apparatus for recording images sensed by at least two image sensing means attached to a vehicle, comprising:

first image sensing means which is arranged to have an image sensing direction agreeing with a first direction of the vehicle;

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a plurality of cameras which are arranged at positions separated a known distance from said first image sensing means to have image sensing directions agreeing with a plurality of directions symmetrical about a second direction [substantially 180°] different from the first direction;

means for detecting a turn of the vehicle;

selection means for selecting the camera which points at a larger angle in a counterclockwise or clockwise direction from said plurality of cameras depending on whether the vehicle has turned clockwise or counterclockwise from the first direction; and

recording means for associating first image data sensed by said first image sensing means with second image data sensed by the camera selected by said selection means [a time duration later corresponding to the known distance], and recording said first and second image data,

wherein said first and second image data are sensed at different times from each other, and the time difference corresponds to said known distance.

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7. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said second direction is substantially 180° different from the first direction, and said plurality of cameras have two cameras, and the image sensing direction of said cameras cross each other on an extending line of the second direction.

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10. (Amended) An image database for generating a database used for building a three-dimensional image space from image sequences sensed by a plurality of image sensing means attached to a vehicle after acquisition of image data, comprising:

a first reader for reading data from a first image data memory recorded by first image sensing means pointed in a first direction;

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a second reader for reading data from a second image memory recorded by second image sensing means which is arranged at a position separated a known distance from said first image sensing means to point in a second direction [substantially 180°] different from the first direction;

a third reader for reading data from a third memory which records a moving position and traveling direction of the vehicle; and

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means for associating image data read by said first reader, and image data [at a position the known distance later of those] read by said second reader based on time duration information that corresponds to the known distance, with each other when traveling direction data read by said third reader indicates that the vehicle is traveling substantially straight.

11. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said second direction is substantially 180° different from the first direction, and wherein, when said second image sensing means includes two cameras having different directions,

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 said associating means associates image data read by said first reader and image data at a position the known distance later of those read by said second reader from the camera located at a counterclockwise or clockwise position with each other, when the traveling direction data read by said third reader indicates a clockwise or counterclockwise turn.

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SUBB7 12. (Amended) An image recording method of recording images sensed by at least two image sensing means attached to a vehicle, comprising the steps of:

 arranging first image sensing means to have an image sensing direction agreeing with a first direction of the vehicle;

 arranging second image sensing means at a position separated a known distance from said first image sensing means to have an image sensing direction agreeing with a second direction [substantially 180°] different from the first direction; and

 associating, when the vehicle travels in the first direction, first image data sensed by said first image

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sensing means with second image data sensed by said second image sensing means [a time duration later corresponding to the known distance].

wherein said first and second image data are sensed at different times from each other, and the time difference corresponds to said known distance.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein said second direction is substantially 180° different from the first direction, and said first image sensing means comprises a plurality of cameras, image sensing directions of which are deployed symmetrically about the first direction.

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SUBS 17. (Amended) An image recording method of recording images sensed by at least two image sensing means attached to a vehicle, comprising the steps of:

arranging first image sensing means to have an image sensing direction agreeing with a first direction of the vehicle;

arranging a plurality of cameras at positions separated a known distance from said first image sensing means to have image sensing directions agreeing with a plurality of directions symmetrical about a second direction [substantially 180°] different from the first direction;

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detecting a turn of the vehicle;
selecting the camera which points at a larger angle
in a counterclockwise or clockwise direction from said
plurality of cameras depending on whether the vehicle has
turned clockwise or counterclockwise from the first
direction; and

recording first image data sensed by said first
image sensing means and second image data sensed by the
selected camera [at a timing a duration corresponding to the
known distance later] in association with each other,
wherein said first and second image data are sensed
at different times from each other, and the time difference
corresponds to said known distance.

18. (Amended) The method according to claim 17,
wherein said second direction is substantially 180° different
from the first direction, and said plurality of cameras have
two cameras, and the image sensing directions of said cameras
cross each other on an extending line of the second
direction.

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20. (Amended) A recording medium of a computer program which makes a computer execute control for recording images sensed by first image sensing means which is arranged to have an image sensing direction agreeing with a first direction of a [the] vehicle, and second image sensing means which is arranged at a position separated a known distance from said first image sensing means to have an image sensing direction [substantially 180°] different from the first direction, said medium recording:

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first program code means for, when the vehicle travels in the first direction, recording first image data sensed by said first image sensing means and second image data sensed by said second image sensing means in association with each other based on time duration information that corresponds to the known distance.

21. (Amended) A recording medium of a computer program which makes a computer execute control for recording images sensed by first image sensing means which is arranged to have an image sensing direction agreeing with a first direction of a [the] vehicle, a plurality of cameras which

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are arranged at positions separated a known distance from said first image sensing means to have image sensing directions agreeing with a plurality of directions symmetrical about a second direction [substantially 180°] different from the first direction, said medium recording:

first program code means for detecting a turn of the vehicle;

second program code means for selecting the camera which points at a larger angle in a counterclockwise or clockwise direction from said plurality of cameras depending on whether the vehicle has turned clockwise or counterclockwise from the first direction; and

third program code means for recording first image data sensed by said first image sensing means, and second image data sensed by the selected camera based on a time duration that corresponds to the known distance, [at a timing a duration corresponding to the known distance later in association] with each other.